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Smart moves  
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July 8/July 15, 2022  
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Making sense of the world

THE WEEK

Junior

THE BEST  
MAGAZINE FOR  
CURIOUS  
KIDS

Chocolate  
or Vanilla?

Which ice cream flavor  
is best? Cast your vote  
in our big debate! p8

Some say  
chocolate is tastier.  
But vanilla is the  
most popular flavor  
around the world.  
What do YOU  
think?





# This week's big news

## THREE BRANCHES

The President is the leader of the Executive branch of the US government, Congress is the Legislative branch, and the Supreme Court heads up the Judicial branch.



The US Capitol, where Congress meets

## Summer recess



The Supreme Court building

Both the Supreme Court and Congress take summer breaks. The Supreme Court typically breaks from early July until the first Monday of October. Congress begins its recess in August and returns to work on September 20. Members of both institutions are available to work if an urgent matter comes up.

# Major decisions made in US capital

In June, the US government made several historic decisions on issues that have been debated in the nation for many years. These new rulings and laws will affect the lives of millions of Americans.

## What happened?

Congress (the branch of government that makes laws) reached a compromise to create new gun safety laws for the first time in nearly 30 years. The decision was bipartisan (agreed to by lawmakers from both major political parties, Republicans and Democrats). The US Supreme Court (SCOTUS, the nation's top court) also announced decisions in several major legal cases. A majority of justices voted to overrule a 111-year-old gun safety law in New York, overturn a case decided nearly 50 years ago involving a woman's right to end a pregnancy, and expand religion in public schools for the first time in about 60 years.

## What happened in Congress?

Republicans and Democrats have disagreed on gun safety laws for many years. Most Republicans favor looser restrictions, while most Democrats want stricter laws. The disagreements have kept them from passing legislation since 1994. However, in May, Senators Chris Murphy of Connecticut, John Cornyn of Texas, Kyrsten Sinema

of Arizona, and Thom Tillis of North Carolina began leading a group of five Republican and five Democratic members of the Senate (one half of Congress). The committee drafted a new bill intended to stop certain people from buying guns and requiring people under age 21 to have more thorough background checks before they can buy a gun. The bill also funds mental health and school safety programs and establishes "red flag" laws, which allow law enforcement officers to take weapons from people who they believe should not own them. The law passed the Senate by a vote of 65–33 and the House of Representatives (other half of Congress) with a 234–193 vote.

President Joe Biden signed the bill into law on June 25.

## What happened in the Supreme Court?

The Supreme Court usually issues several rulings in June, on cases the nine justices have been considering since the fall. On June 23, SCOTUS voted 6–3 to strike

down a New York law that restricted people's ability to carry concealed weapons in public. The next day, SCOTUS overturned *Roe v. Wade*, a case from 1973 that established a woman's constitutional right to end a pregnancy. In a 5–4 vote, it was decided that this is no longer a right that is guaranteed

nationwide. Instead, each state can determine what is legal within its borders. SCOTUS also ruled 6–3 in favor of a high school football coach in Washington who prayed on the field after games. This is a reversal of previous decisions, which said public schools may not endorse or promote religious activities, such as prayer.

## What was the reaction?

Polls show that a majority of Americans support the new gun restrictions, and many lawmakers praised the law. "Will it save lives? I believe the answer to that is yes," said Senator Cornyn, a Republican. Others said the law infringed on the Second Amendment of the US Constitution, which refers to the right of Americans to bear arms (weapons). "They're coming after our Second Amendment liberties," said Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, a Republican. The country was divided on the Supreme Court opinions. After the decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated across the country, both for and against the decision.

## What will happen next?

Supreme Court rulings go into effect immediately. Some states are writing new laws, while others are strengthening laws that already exist. Meanwhile, all 50 states will take steps to implement the new gun safety laws put in place by Congress.



Senators John Cornyn (left) and Chris Murphy





## Earthquake in Afghanistan

A massive earthquake struck the mountainous region of southeastern Afghanistan on June 22. The earthquake's magnitude (size of the seismic waves it produces on a scale of 1 to 10) was about a 6. A second, weaker earthquake hit the remote area two days later.

Nearly 3,000 homes were destroyed or badly damaged, according to Afghanistan's state media, and some villages were completely destroyed. Houses in the region are often made of mud and stone, leaving them more vulnerable to collapse. As of June 24, the death toll had reached 1,150 people. It is the deadliest earthquake in 20 years in a nation where about half of the population is already facing severe food shortages.

Rescue efforts are underway. The World Health Organization has sent medical teams and supplies, and the World Food Programme said it will provide food. The government of India has sent a team to help coordinate relief efforts, while India, Iran, and Pakistan have donated tents, blankets, and other supplies.



Damage in the Gyan District



Justin Trudeau, prime minister of Canada

## Canada bans single-use plastics

On June 20, Canada announced that by the end of 2022, it will no longer manufacture or import single-use plastics. The rule will phase out the use of most plastic grocery bags, food-service containers, cutlery, and straws, but will make exceptions for medical products. The nation's goal is to eliminate all plastic waste by 2030.

Single-use plastics take hundreds of years to break down, and plastic waste ends up in the ocean, where it harms marine life and pollutes beaches. Chile, Kenya, the UK, and the European Union (a group of 27 nations, mostly in Europe) have enacted similar bans. Eight US states have banned single-use plastic bags, but the US remains a leading contributor of plastic waste.

Canadian businesses have until December 2023 to use their existing supply of plastic items and begin using products made from different materials. At the end of 2025, Canada will prevent businesses from exporting single-use plastics to other countries.

Canadians now use up to 15 billion plastic grocery bags per year and about 16 million plastic straws daily. Justin Trudeau, the prime minister (similar to a President), said the move will cut 1.4 million tons of plastic waste over the next 10 years and more than 24,000 tons of plastic pollution. "That's equal to a million garbage bags full of litter," he wrote on social media. Once the ban is enacted, Canadians will use paper straws, reusable bags, and other environmentally friendly products.



## IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

### BACK-TO-BACK BRILLIANCE

Major League Baseball star Shohei Ohtani had two career highs in two days. On June 21, the Los Angeles Angels pitcher hit two home runs and drove in eight runs, the most of his career. The next night, he struck out 13 Kansas City Royals batters, another career record. "What a performance," said Angels manager Phil Nevin.



Shohei Ohtani



A baby turtle

### TURTLE CONSERVATION

Dozens of the world's rarest sea turtles made it safely to sea after hatching on a Texas beach for the first time. Kemp's ridley turtles laid about 45 eggs on Magnolia Beach, and conservationists guided the turtlets as they crawled to the water. "Everybody feels really special," a scientist said.

### A WELL-EARNED RETIREMENT

A crossing guard known as the "Queen of Walt Whitman Boulevard" has retired in style. Claire Bauman helped students cross the street outside a New Jersey elementary school since 1965. The school threw her a retirement parade, and a former student gave her a ride in a limo to say goodbye. "It's been a good 57 years," she said.



Claire Bauman





# National news

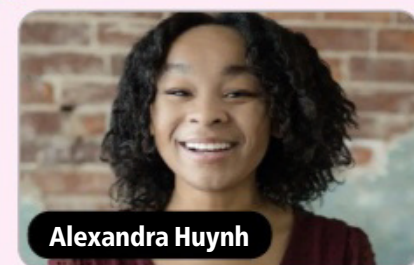
## DID YOU KNOW?

More than 440,000 vehicles travel along or through the National Mall in Washington, DC, each weekday.



People attending the Unity March

## Youth poet laureate



Alexandra Huynh

Among the Unity March speakers was Alexandra Huynh, the 2021 National Youth Poet Laureate. A daughter of Vietnamese refugees, Huynh is TK years old and from California. She is the fifth US youth poet laureate, a position held by young people who are exceptional poets and use their voice to inspire change.

# Unity March held on National Mall

On June 25, a crowd gathered in Washington, DC, to bring attention to issues affecting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The Unity March was the first national event ever held to call for social justice for Asian Americans. It is intended to become an annual event.

## What happened?

Up to 2,000 people attended the event on the National Mall, a park in the nation's capital where many important protests have taken place. The Unity March was formed by 10 organizations, including Asian Americans Advancing Justice and Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote. The event was also supported by more than 50 multicultural groups representing Black, Latino, and other communities who

have historically experienced discrimination in the US. Attendance was lower than expected due to intense heat, widespread airline flight cancellations, and other protests taking place.

## What was the purpose of the march?

The event was meant to bring people together and raise awareness of the struggles that people in many Asian American communities experience. Asian Americans from many different cultural and geographical backgrounds were present, and attendees spanned a wide range of ages, including children, teenagers, and older people. Organizers said they wanted people to understand that Asian and Pacific Islanders face a wide variety of issues, such as unequal access to voting and a lack of

multicultural studies in education. "It is through solidarity that these issues can be recognized and addressed," Kiran Gill, one of the event organizers, told *USA Today*.

## What was the reaction?

People said they felt empowered by the march. One performer, known as KHA, drew strength from the idea of different groups joining together. "To be able to shout together to the world why we're here... that message really resonates with me," she told the *Washington Post*. An attendee, Bhumi Peer, 21, of New Jersey, said she faced discrimination as a young person but now feels accepted and part of a larger community. She told NBC News, "We're American... and we belong here."



## WORD OF THE WEEK

### MEGALITH

Thousands of pits have recently been discovered near Stonehenge, one of the most famous prehistoric monuments in the world. The name "Stonehenge" is believed to come from the Old English for "hanging stones." The stones themselves are examples of "megaliths," from the Greek *mega*, "large," and *lithos*, "stone."



## THE WEEK IN HISTORY

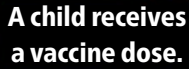
### July 7, 1928

#### Sliced bread sold for the first time

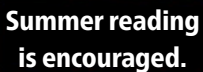
On July 7, 1928, a bakery in Missouri sold sliced bread for the first time using a bread-slicing machine. Before that, bread was sold in loaves that people sliced themselves. Some people found the bread "startling," a newspaper reported. Improvements were made to the slicing machine, and the bread became popular. Today, the phrase "the best thing since sliced bread" refers to something that is great.







Children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years began receiving the vaccine against Covid-19 on June 21. After studies showed the vaccine was safe and effective for this age group, US health officials gave permission for two Covid-19 vaccines, one by drug company Moderna and another by Pfizer-BioNTech, to be given. This was the last age group to become eligible for the vaccine, making about 17 million young children able to get doses.



The New York Public Library (NYPL) is giving away 500,000 books to kids and teenagers this summer. As part of the Summer at the Library Program, New York City residents can go to any of NYPL's 92 locations to choose a new book—not to borrow, but to keep. The giveaway is designed to inspire young people to read during summer break and build their own book collection at home.

Boeing, a US aerospace company, revealed a new spacesuit design for astronauts at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The design is by ILC Dover, a company that makes spacesuits for NASA. The blue suits with built-in helmets will be worn on the Crew Space Transportation Starliner during NASA's missions to the International Space Station in 2023.



**Trumpet the bloodhound  
won Best in Show.**

A bloodhound named Trumpet won the top prize at the 146th Westminster Kennel Club (WKC) Dog Show on June 22, becoming the first of his breed to ever do so. The annual event is the nation's most prestigious dog show. It was held at Lyndhurst Estate in Tarrytown, New York.

Trumpet was awarded the first place trophy known as Best in Show. It is given to the dog that best represents its breed. The 4-year-old from Illinois displayed the distinctive traits of a bloodhound—a wrinkly face and drooping ears. Trumpet is new to dog shows, having only started competing in them in January.

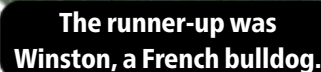
Established in New York City in 1877, the WKC is the oldest organization dedicated to the sport of dogs. Its show is the second-longest continuously held sporting event in the US, after the Kentucky Derby, a horse race.

In the show, the dogs are judged using standards set by the American Kennel Club.

Currently, the club recognizes 209 breeds and varieties. Dogs compete in one of seven groups: herding, hound, non-sporting, sporting, terrier, toy, and working. The dogs are brought to a ring where their handlers (people who train dogs for shows) walk them around and present them to a panel of three judges. This year's judges had been handlers at past dog shows.

More than 3,000 dogs competed in this year's event. A 3-year-old French bulldog named Winston won Reserve Best in Show, which is the award given to the runner-up. Winston's owner is professional football player Morgan Fox, who plays for the Los Angeles Chargers. "I am just so proud of him," said Fox.

Heather Buehner, Trumpet's handler, said she was shocked and surprised when Trumpet won. "Sometimes I feel the bloodhound is a bit of an underdog," Buehner told the Associated Press after the win.



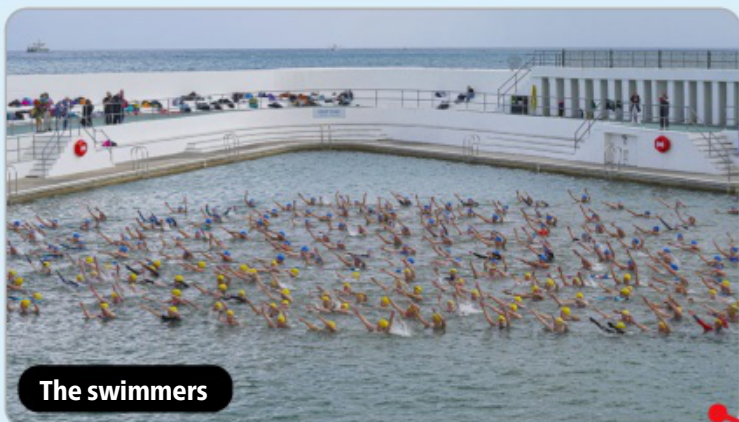
## “Mystery horse caught wandering loose in Texas neighborhood” *UPI*







# Around the world



The swimmers



## Cornwall, United Kingdom Swimmers unite for Ukraine

On June 26, a group of 270 swimmers performed a routine together to break a world record. The event raised money to help children affected by the war in Ukraine. Half of the swimmers wore blue swim caps and half wore yellow caps, representing the Ukrainian flag. Guinness World Records has yet to confirm whether they beat the previous record for the largest synchronized swim routine, performed by 247 people in Spain in 2017.



Climbers on Everest



## Nepal Mount Everest Base Camp may move

Nepal is considering relocating Mount Everest Base Camp due to human activity and warming temperatures. The base camp from which adventurers climb Everest, the world's highest mountain, is facing risks from human traffic and melting of nearby Khumbu glacier. Mount Everest Base Camp is 17,700 feet above sea level. A proposed new location might be 656 to 984 feet below the current altitude.



Protesters in Quito



## Quito, Ecuador Fuel costs cut in response to protests

Ecuador's president, Guillermo Lasso, has promised to cut fuel prices after weeks of protests. Demonstrators, led by Indigenous people (the first to inhabit a place), have been protesting against rising food and fuel costs. Lasso agreed to reduce fuel prices by 10 cents a gallon, which was one third of what the protesters had asked for.



## Vienna, Austria Vienna named top city

Vienna was named the world's most "livable" city in a report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). The report ranked 173 cities by quality of services like education, healthcare, and public transportation. Copenhagen (Denmark), Zurich and Geneva (Switzerland), and Calgary, Vancouver, and Toronto (Canada) were also included in the top 10.



Vienna



## Kigali, Rwanda Gabon and Togo join the Commonwealth

A bid by Togo and Gabon to join the Commonwealth—a group of more than 50 countries, most of which are former territories of the British Empire—has been accepted. The two African countries were announced as members at the Commonwealth summit in Rwanda's capital, Kigali. Paul Kagame, president of Rwanda, said, "We all welcome them to the Commonwealth family."



The summit in Kigali

GETTY IMAGES (5); SHUTTERSTOCK (2); ALAMY (2); CANDELA; REUTERS



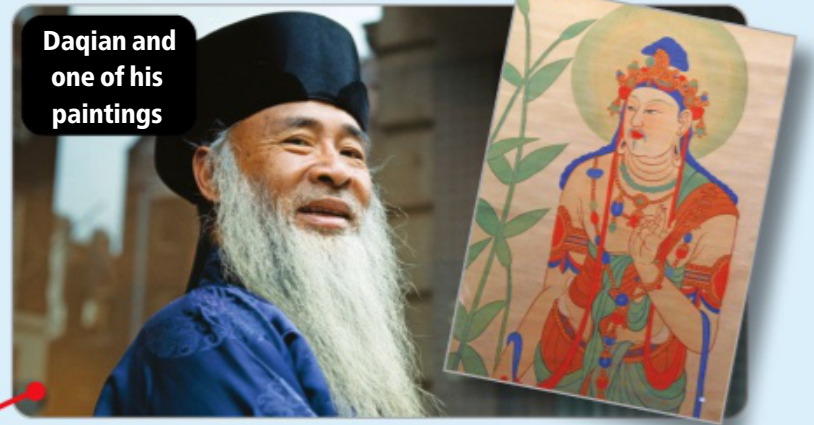


The ferry



## Stockholm, Sweden “Flying” electric ferry launches

People in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, will soon be able to travel across water on a new kind of electric boat. The Candela P-12 shuttle will be the fastest and longest-range electric ship in history because of its “hydrofoil” technology—wings that lift it above the water. The ferry will be used for public transportation.



Daqian and one of his paintings



## China Painter grows in popularity

Zhang Daqian, a Chinese painter who died almost 40 years ago, is now being recognized as one of the 20th century’s greatest artists. He worked in several styles, including traditional Chinese ink landscapes and modern art. Last year, his work outsold that of famous artist Vincent Van Gogh. One of Daqian’s artworks, the 1947 painting *Landscape After Wang Ximeng*, recently sold for \$47 million at an auction.



Students in Japan



## Japan Silent lunchtimes ending in schools

After two years of eating in silence, students in schools across Japan have permission to talk to classmates at lunch again. Students had been observing *mokushoku* (silent eating) to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Schools have started to lift the rule as infections have fallen. While some think it’s too early to get rid of the rule, some parents and staff are glad. One principal said, “I hope happy school lunchtimes will return soon.”



Boramy the giant stingray



## Stung Treng, Cambodia World’s largest freshwater fish found

Scientists caught a giant stingray in Cambodia’s Mekong River that is the largest freshwater fish ever recorded. It took about 12 people to move the fish, which weighs 661 pounds. The stingray, named Boramy (“full moon”) in the Khmer language due to its shape, was tagged and released back into the Mekong so scientists can learn more about it.



## Bangkok, Thailand

### Capital gets new park

A new park in Thailand’s capital, Bangkok, has been providing city residents with easy access to nature. Up to 12,000 people visit the park on weekends. The area already contained about 1,700 trees, but architects who redesigned the site have added almost 7,000 more to create small forests throughout the park. The project is part of an effort to make Bangkok greener by 2030.



The new park





# The big debate

## Is chocolate ice cream better than vanilla?

Some people love the rich taste of chocolate, but others say vanilla is a versatile classic.

### What you need to know

- Research shows that ice cream sales have gone up during the pandemic—and that 51% of consumers consider ice cream a comfort food.
- According to the US Census Bureau, the average American eats about 23 pounds of ice cream every year.
- Vanilla is the most popular ice cream flavor around the world. In the US, some polls have found that vanilla is the most popular flavor, while others say it's chocolate.



July is National Ice Cream Month, and although Americans love ice cream all year round, more of it is eaten in July and August than any other time of year. What flavors will most Americans turn to? It's a toss-up between vanilla and chocolate, which compete for the nation's top flavor. Food industry experts say vanilla makes up about 26% of ice cream sales in the US, while chocolate is right behind it, at about 22.5%. Chocolate lovers argue that chocolate is richer and tastier than vanilla. But vanilla fans think their favorite flavor goes with everything and is a better treat. What do you think? Is chocolate ice cream better than vanilla?

### Yes—chocolate is tasty and healthy

Chocolate ice cream is not only bursting with intense flavor, but it's full of healthy nutrients, including folate and antioxidants, which are substances the body needs for healthy cells. In fact, the darker the chocolate, the better it is for you. Chocolate also contains tryptophan, a natural chemical that helps the body process protein and make serotonin, a chemical in the brain that increases happiness. So chocolate can actually make people happier. Vanilla may be lighter and less rich, but it's boring and bland and needs toppings (like chocolate sauce!) to be truly tasty. Chocolate ice cream is delicious all on its own.

### No—vanilla is the perfect flavor

Vanilla is a cool and comforting classic. It isn't bland—it's a simple pleasure that can stand on its own or serve as the perfect complement to other flavors. Drizzle on some hot fudge and add a cherry on top, or pretty much any topping, and you've got a delicious ice cream sundae. A scoop of vanilla ice cream also makes other desserts, like pie or brownies, even better. Chocolate ice cream wouldn't taste right combined with most treats. Vanilla ice cream also usually has less sugar than chocolate, making it a healthier option. There's a reason it's the most popular ice cream flavor around the world.

### YES Three reasons why chocolate ice cream is better than vanilla

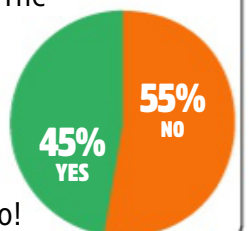
- 1 Chocolate is richer and has more flavor than bland and boring vanilla.
- 2 More nutrients and antioxidants are contained in chocolate, as well as a natural chemical that can make people happier.
- 3 Chocolate ice cream doesn't need anything added to it to make it delicious. It's just right on its own.

### NO Three reasons why chocolate ice cream is not better than vanilla

- 1 Vanilla is a simple pleasure and pairs perfectly with other flavors.
- 2 Vanilla is versatile. It goes with different types of desserts, while chocolate wouldn't taste right with most other treats.
- 3 Most brands of vanilla ice cream contain less sugar than chocolate, making vanilla the healthier option.

### LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you if summer reading should be mandatory. The results will go down in the books as a narrow victory for no!



### What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit [theweekjunior.com/polls](https://theweekjunior.com/polls) with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think chocolate ice cream is better than vanilla or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.





## Swimming with sharks

Marine scientist Candace Fields studies ocean life up close.

Swimming with sharks may seem scary, but it is a dream come true for marine biologist Candace Fields. Fields studies large ocean predators (including sharks) and appears on National Geographic's *Sharkfest*, which is six weeks of programming all about the science, stories, and history of sharks on Disney+.

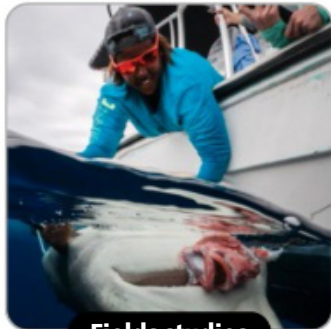
Growing up in the Bahamas, Fields spent a lot of time in the ocean. "I was always naturally drawn to the amazing creatures that lived there," Fields told *The Week Junior*. "I am sure this sounds cliché, but for as long as I can remember, I always wanted to be a marine biologist."

After getting a degree in neuroscience (study of the nervous system and brain) at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, Fields returned to the Bahamas. She pursued her

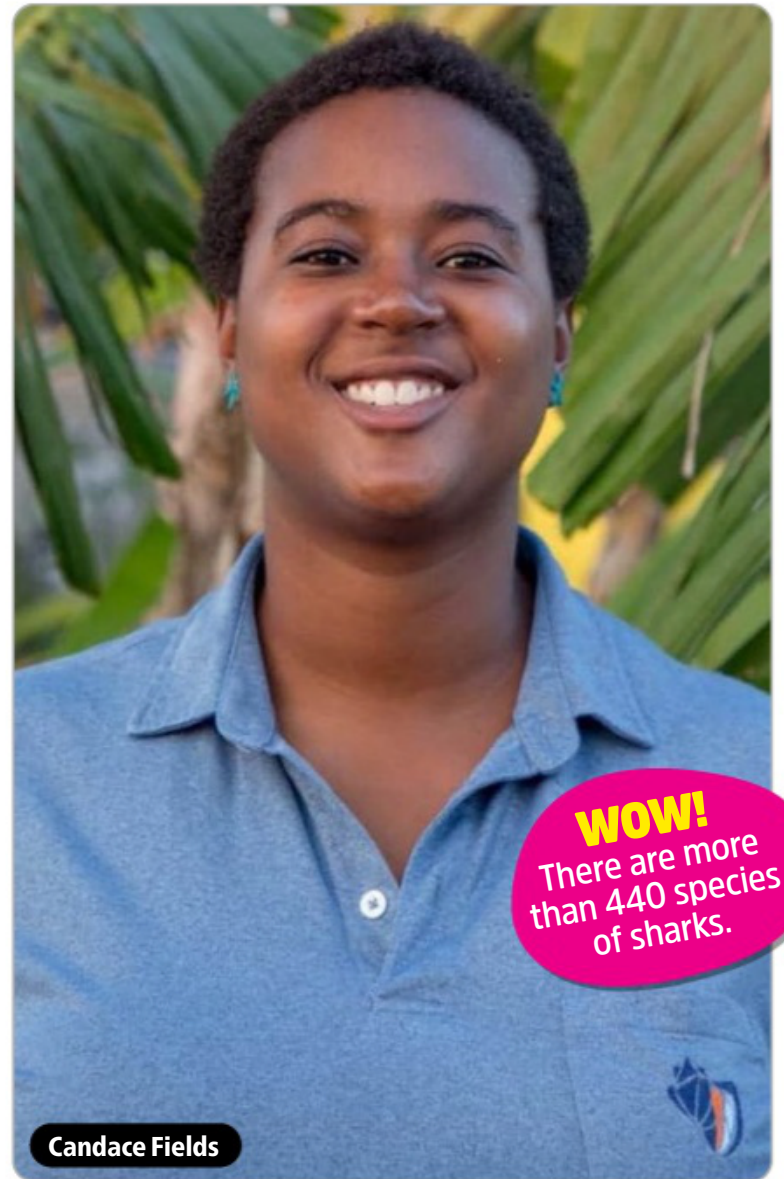
true passion, marine science, by studying at an ocean research center. Wanting to further her education, she is now pursuing her PhD (advanced degree) at Florida International University. Fields' research

focuses on oceanic whitetip sharks, one of her favorite animals. "I have always been drawn to sharks because I wanted to understand why so many people have such negative perceptions of them," she said.

Now Fields is putting her knowledge of sharks to good use on NatGeo's *Sharkfest*. She appears in the episode titled "World's Biggest Hammerhead." "There are so many things that make sharks interesting animals to study," Fields told *The Week Junior*. "But I am most passionate about the many amazing conservation efforts to preserve them."



Fields studies a shark.



Candace Fields

**WOW!**  
There are more than 440 species of sharks.

## Drummer honored

Ringo Starr was recently awarded an honorary doctorate from the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. He was formally presented with his degree at a special ceremony in June, in which Berklee students performed some of Starr's hit songs. Starr joined The Beatles in 1962, and they went on to become one of the most successful bands in music history. Starr continues to make music and perform today with his All-Starr band. He told Berklee's graduating students, "May your dream keep unfolding for you as it has for me."



Ringo Starr



Trinity Rodman

## A new star in soccer

ESPN has named American soccer player Trinity Rodman the number-one player in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL). Last year, in her first season with the NWSL, Rodman's performance on the field earned her the Rookie of the Year title. Rodman, age 20, is a forward for the Washington Spirit and the highest-paid player in NWSL history. The daughter of former pro basketball player Dennis Rodman is blazing her own path in sports. "She's a change-the-game player," Spirit head coach Kris Ward told ESPN. "There hasn't been anyone like her before."

## OVERHEARD



**"I'm stubborn, but I'm also very flexible when I hear a better solution. It doesn't have to be my idea."**

Recently retired Duke University basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski, known to fans as Coach K. Krzyzewski was one of college basketball's most successful coaches during his nearly 50-year career.





## SMART IDEA

Female dolphins in Shark Bay, Australia, use sponges as tools to dig out fish on the ocean floor.



Dolphins on a reef in the Red Sea

## What coral sounds mean

The sounds around a coral reef can reveal its health. A research team recorded underwater sounds from reefs in Hawaii over several months. Healthy reefs were crackling with sound and life. But unhealthy reefs had less sound and more “pops.” They get overwhelmed with seaweed releasing air bubbles that pop.

### A healthy reef



# Dolphins heal skin with coral

Just like humans, dolphins can suffer from skin irritations and disease—a problem that seems to be getting worse as the world’s oceans get warmer. Fortunately, dolphins have found their own natural way of treating them, and new research suggests that it could amount to a form of medicine.

Angela Ziltener of Switzerland’s University of Zurich leads a team studying a group of 360 bottlenose dolphins that live in the Red Sea off the eastern coast of Egypt. The team noticed that dolphins would often line up to rub against various corals. This could have just been a way of soothing

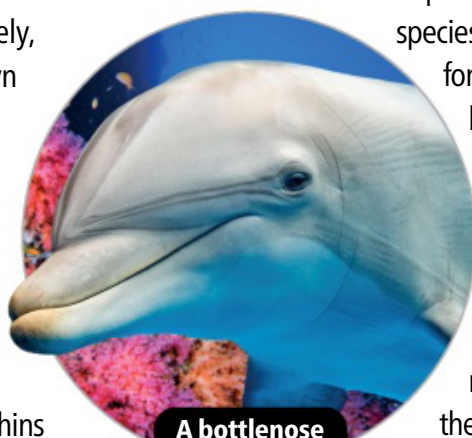
irritated skin. However, Ziltener began to wonder if there was more to the dolphins’ behavior.

The dolphins seemed to prefer certain coral species and singled out specific corals for rubbing particular parts of their body. The animals also rubbed in ways that encouraged the coral polyps (the small tentacled animals that live inside the protective skeleton) to produce a slimy protective liquid called mucus. Some dolphins even held their mouths open near the polyps, apparently to swallow the substance.

Gertrud Morlock, a chemist from Justus Liebig University at Giessen in Germany, looked at mucus from the dolphins’ favorite

corals and found at least 17 chemicals named metabolites, which can affect other living things. “Such metabolites are helpful if you have an infection,” she explained to *The Guardian*, a UK newspaper. “If the dolphins have a skin infection, these could have something like a healing property.”

So are the dolphins using the coral as medicine? Certainly these smart animals are known to make use of their environment, but other dolphin specialists say more questions need to be answered. For instance, more research is needed about whether dolphins that rub against the coral actually have fewer skin diseases and better health, and whether medicinal mucus explains why the dolphins prefer to rub on some corals but not others.



A bottlenose dolphin



## PLACE OF THE WEEK

Mueller State Park, Colorado

Sitting on the western foothills (hilly areas at the base of a mountain) of Pikes Peak, a prominent mountain in Colorado, Mueller State Park spans more than 5,000 acres. It is covered in forests of coniferous and aspen trees, as well as grasslands where large chunks of granite rock burst from the landscape. Black bears call the place home, as do elk, deer, and mountain lions, while trout swim in the ponds. Hundreds of birds, including golden eagles, red-tailed hawks, great horned owls, and gray jays, live in or migrate through the park.



A gray jay





**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Bumblebees, unlike other types of bees, don't make much honey.

Bees in California will be protected.

## Bees can be considered fish, court rules

A California court has ruled that bumblebees can be considered a type of fish under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), making bees eligible for the protections that the law provides.

The CESA was written to protect "native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant." Bumblebees are a type of invertebrate, (animals without a backbone). However, California's Fish and Game Code defines fish as "a wild fish, mollusk, crustacean, invertebrate, amphibian, or part . . . of any of

those animals." So bumblebees, as invertebrates, fall under that definition, the court recently found.

Now four species of bumblebees can be listed as endangered under the CESA. Listing these species under the CESA means they cannot be killed or taken from the wild, and public agencies cannot approve projects that would threaten their existence.

Bees play a vital role in the environment by helping plants to reproduce by pollinating them. However, bumblebee populations have declined significantly in recent years.

## Animal of the week

Bali myna



The population of Bali mynas in the wild, once thought to be as low as six, has rebounded. An Indonesian government program that works with private breeders to breed mynas in captivity and release some into the wild has been a success.

- **LIFE SPAN:** About 7½ years
- **SIZE:** 10 inches long and 2 to 4 ounces
- **DIET:** Insects, fruit, worms, and small reptiles
- **HABITAT:** Mountains along Bali's north coast
- **FUN FACT:** Mynas are talented songbirds that make a variety of calls.



## Good week / Bad week



### Brazilian tapirs

A Brazilian tapir named Ennis has given birth to a male tapir at Amazona Zoo in the UK. Brazilian tapirs are mammals related to horses and rhinoceroses and are under threat in the wild due to hunting and loss of habitat.



### Great Salt Lake

Utah's Great Salt Lake, the largest saltwater lake in the Western Hemisphere, dropped to its lowest recorded water level in 2021. A warming climate and human use of water from rivers that feed the lake are causing it to dry out.



## "How do beavers know where to make their dams?"

Wednesday, 8, California

**Diana Vogel**  
Zookeeper,  
Smithsonian's National Zoo

An ideal habitat for a new dam has flowing water over 6 feet deep. This allows beavers to make an underwater entrance to their home. They also prefer an earthy riverbed as opposed to rocks. Beavers are herbivores (plant eaters), so finding a habitat close to vegetation is also crucial.



A beaver

Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com). Find out more about the Smithsonian's National Zoo at [nationalzoo.si.edu](http://nationalzoo.si.edu).





## All about the Statue of Liberty

# A symbolic beacon

**Discover the history and meaning of a famous US landmark.**

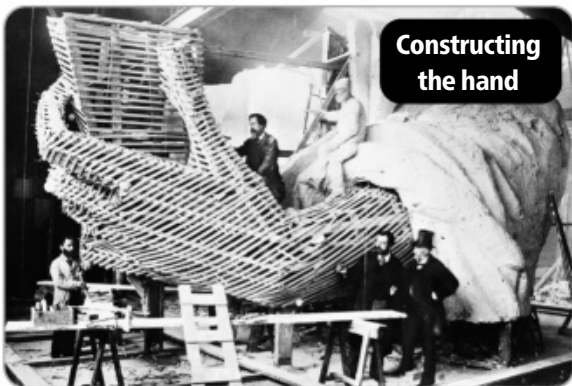
She stands above New York Harbor, lifting a torch that lights the sky. The Statue of Liberty is a work of art and much more. Also called "Lady Liberty," she is an icon representing the United States of America.

### Lady Liberty is born

When slavery officially ended in the US in 1865, a French abolitionist (person against slavery) named Édouard de Laboulaye wanted to give a gift in celebration. He discussed the idea with artist Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi, who decided to create a sculpture for the occasion. Many historians believe that the design Bartholdi chose, a woman in a robe and crown, was intended to represent Libertas, the Roman goddess of freedom. He began fundraising in France and the US, even building the statue's torch-bearing arm and carrying it around to inspire donations. On a trip to New York, he pinpointed Bedloe's Island, near Manhattan, as the artwork's future home.



Édouard de Laboulaye



Constructing the hand

### A long journey

After creating several models, Bartholdi built the statue from 1876 to 1884, using 62,000 pounds of copper sheets laid over a 250,000-pound steel structure. He named it "Liberty Enlightening the World." To get the statue to the US, it had to be taken apart, packed into 214 crates, and shipped across the ocean. After the boat arrived in June 1885, workers spent four months putting the statue back together and placing it on its pedestal. On October 28, 1886, President Grover Cleveland dedicated the statue. Before thousands of people, Bartholdi climbed the statue and pulled away a gigantic French flag to reveal her face.

GETTY IMAGES (8); ALAMY (2)

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The Statue of Liberty is struck by lightning about 600 times a year.

**WOW!**  
The statue is 151 feet tall—305 feet with the pedestal. That is roughly the height of a 22-story building.

Lady Liberty is one of the world's most recognizable statues.







# of freedom

## What the symbols mean

### The torch

Lady Liberty's torch, which represents enlightenment, is lit by 16 floodlights at night. During a restoration of the statue from 1984 to 1986, the original torch was replaced with a new one covered in bright gold leaf.

### The crown

The crown's spikes form a halo around the statue's head. Some say the seven points symbolize the seven continents of the world and the "seven seas" (a term representing the world's seas and oceans). Others say the points represent the Sun's rays.

### The tablet

In her left hand, Lady Liberty holds a law tablet. The artist, who admired America's fight for freedom, marked the date of America's independence from British rule—July 4, 1776—in Roman numerals.

### The robe

The Statue of Liberty is dressed in a stola, a long gown commonly worn by women in ancient Rome. The Roman goddess Libertas was often depicted wearing a similar robe.

### The chains

A broken shackle and chains lie at her feet, symbolizing newfound freedom. Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi originally planned for Lady Liberty to hold these in her hand but put a tablet there instead.



An immigrant family arrives at Ellis Island.

## Words of welcome

In 1892, the nation's first immigration inspection station opened on Ellis Island, about 4,000 feet away from the statue. People entering the US from other countries were required to stop at Ellis Island for medical and legal examinations. As immigrants arrived in New York Harbor, they saw Lady Liberty raising a torch, as if to guide them to their new home. The Statue of Liberty had become a symbol of welcome. In 1903, a bronze plaque was added to the inner wall of the pedestal to express that idea. On this plaque is a poem called "The New Colossus," written by Emma Lazarus in 1883 for an auction in support of building the statue. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," the poem reads. "Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

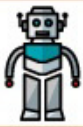


Liberty Island

## Lady Liberty today

Over time, air and water turned Lady Liberty's copper "skin" a bluish-green color, in a process called oxidation. Authorities considered having the statue painted back to the original copper color. However, when newspapers published the idea in 1906, the public disagreed and the plan was scrapped. To this day, she stands tall and green on the renamed Liberty Island. About 3.5 million people visit the statue every year, boarding ferry boats from New York and New Jersey to see the national icon and climb a spiral staircase up to her crown, looking out over the country she represents.





## DID YOU KNOW?

The first dinosaur bone ever found was discovered in the UK in 1676. Scientists believe it was a megalosaurus.



A rendering of a warm-blooded velociraptor

# Dinos were warm-blooded

Scientists have solved one of the oldest mysteries about dinosaurs: whether they had cold or warm blood. The answer, it turns out, is both.

The temperature of an animal's blood is tied to its metabolism—the rate at which its body extracts energy from food. Metabolism affects how much an animal needs to eat, how active it can be, and even where it can survive. Understanding dinosaur metabolisms is a huge breakthrough in learning how these extinct beasts lived.

Mammals and birds are warm-blooded animals with fast metabolisms. They need to eat frequently but can be active, even in cold climates. Cold-blooded animals, such as reptiles, have slower metabolisms and eat less often, but their activity depends on the temperatures around them. They get sluggish if they cool down too much.

Dinosaurs were reptiles, and because of that, some experts have argued that they must have been cold-blooded. Others have suggested, however, that some dinos must have been warm-blooded because they are the ancestors of warm-blooded birds.

Jasmina Wiemann, from the California Institute of Technology, found a way to solve the puzzle. She realized that some of the chemicals that transport energy in an animal's body can remain in their fossils (the remains of ancient plants and animals preserved in rock). The amount of these chemicals present in a dinosaur fossil can reveal the rate of its metabolism.



The cold-blooded stegosaurus

Wiemann and her team measured the chemical makeup of fossils from 55 different species. The results suggested that the very first dinosaurs already had warm-blooded metabolisms when they evolved 240 million years ago. So did the majority of their descendants, from predators like T. rex to plant-eating giants like diplodocus.

However, some plant eaters, such as the duck-billed hadrosaurs and the horned triceratops, later developed slower metabolisms and colder blood. The armored stegosaurus had the slowest metabolism of all. The findings disprove a theory that being cold-blooded contributed to the extinction of the dinosaurs, because many of the dinosaurs that went extinct were warm-blooded.

## Changing views of dinosaurs



Early dinosaur statues

In the early 1800s, fossil hunters realized that dinosaurs were a distinct group of ancient animals. The scientists assumed that because dinos were giant reptiles, they would have reptile-like shapes and lifestyles despite their enormous size. Many early images of dinosaurs showed them as lumbering, sluggish lizards, like the ones on display in museums and private collections around the world. (See the examples above.)

Later fossil finds revealed that many dinosaurs had much more agile and varied shapes. Scientists began to consider whether they could also have had more active lifestyles. This has led to more accurate and lifelike renderings and models of dinosaurs.



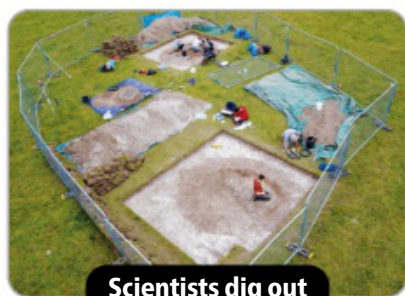


## Ancient pits found at Stonehenge

Stonehenge is a prehistoric stone monument near Salisbury, England, in the UK, that is estimated to be about 5,000 years old. Scientists recently found that the landscape around it is scattered with hundreds of pits, many of which were made long before the standing stones were put up. The discovery shows that the area has been important for longer than experts thought.

The pits were found by researchers from the University of Birmingham in the UK and Ghent University in Belgium. They surveyed the area by firing electric currents into the ground. The strength of the currents showed differences in the soil, including areas where it had been disturbed. Philippe De Smedt, who led

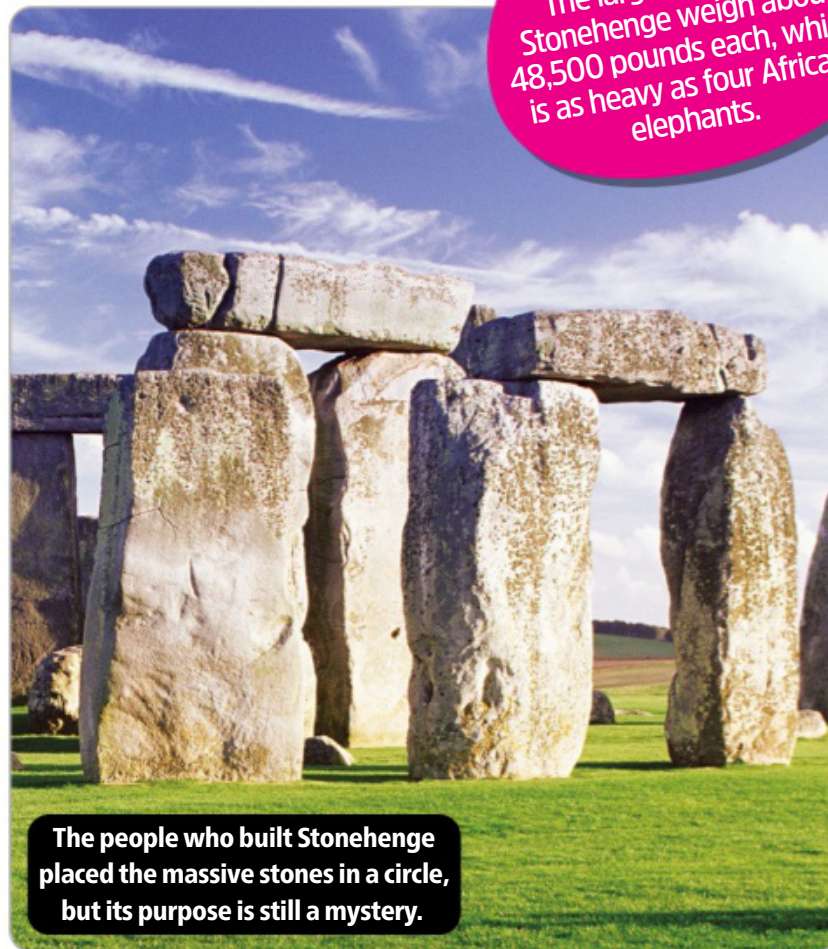
the team, said this technique allowed them to “visualize what’s buried below the surface of entire landscapes.” Some individual pits were then dug out by hand and studied for evidence to find out how old they were.



**Scientists dig out the hunting pit.**

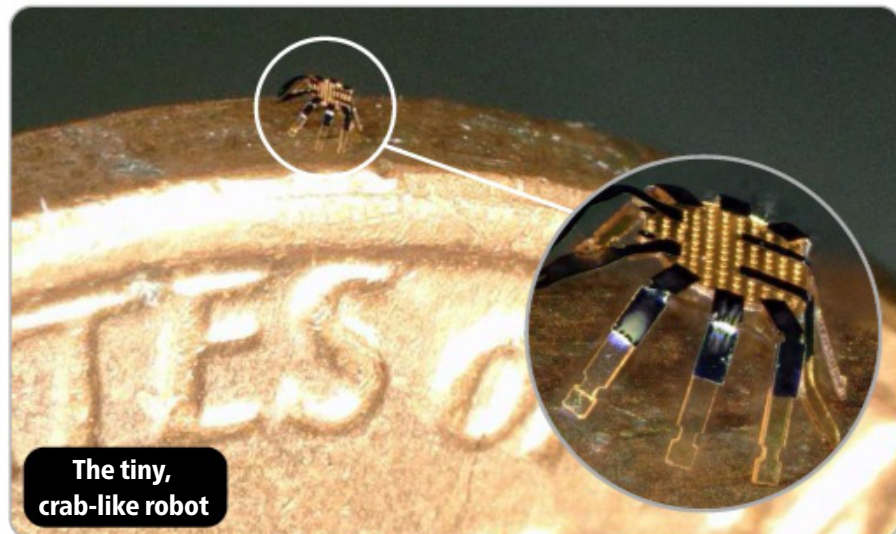
The oldest pit, which was about 13 feet wide by 6½ feet deep, is about 10,000 years old. It held stone tools that could have been used for hunting.

The researchers believe the pit was likely dug by hunters to trap large animals, including deer, pigs, and extinct wild cattle called aurochs. More recent pits date to the Bronze Age, about 3,000 years ago. The historians think these were dug to be used in rituals once Stonehenge itself was standing.



**The people who built Stonehenge placed the massive stones in a circle, but its purpose is still a mystery.**

**WOW!**  
The largest stones at Stonehenge weigh about 48,500 pounds each, which is as heavy as four African elephants.



**The tiny, crab-like robot**

## Tiny walking robot is developed

Researchers at Northwestern University in Illinois have developed the smallest ever walking, remote-controlled robot. The device is a half-millimeter wide, smaller than a flea. Besides walking, it can crawl, bend, twist, turn, and jump.

The robot is made of a special material that changes shape when its temperature changes. To control it, the scientists aimed a laser at its individual legs.

This caused the legs to heat up and straighten out, then cool down and bend. Doing this over and over makes the legs walk. The researchers said it could potentially be used in surgeries (to unclog a patient’s arteries, for example) or to help build or repair small machines.

In addition to the crab-like robot, the engineers developed robots that are similar to inchworms, crickets, and beetles.



## Recycled plastic camping gear



**The tree tent and storage net**

Tentsile, a company that produces hanging sleeping shelters and hammocks for camping, has created a new tent and hammock made of 100% recycled plastics taken from the Pacific Ocean.

The Ocean Hammock holds one person and is made from the

equivalent of 31 recycled plastic bottles. The Ocean UNA tree tent, which fits one person and has a net to hold their gear, uses the equivalent of 128 plastic bottles. Both products are made without any chemical dyes, which reduces pollution created during the dyeing process.



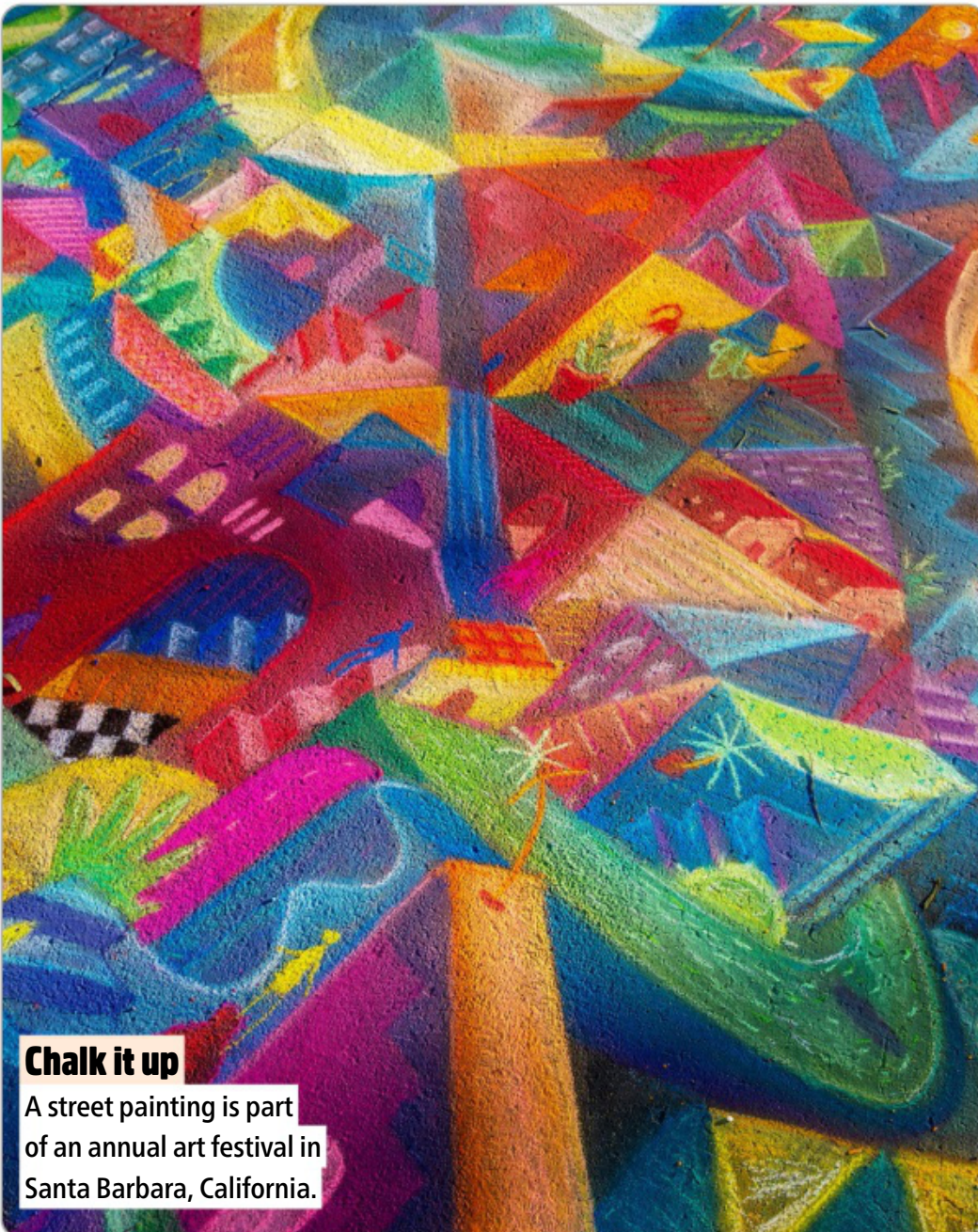


# Photos of the week



## Watch it grow

A Vanda orchid blooms in a botanical garden in Ecuador.



## Chalk it up

A street painting is part of an annual art festival in Santa Barbara, California.



NAOMI: GETTY IMAGES (5)



# Photos of the week



## Celebrating the planet

A group performs in China for World Environment Day on June 5.



## Need a hand?

A woman in South Korea walks under a bronze sculpture by artist Hwang Man-seok.



## Sun power

Solar panels in a park in China generate electricity.



## Bright spot

Naomi, 12, of Minnesota took this photo of a sun halo.

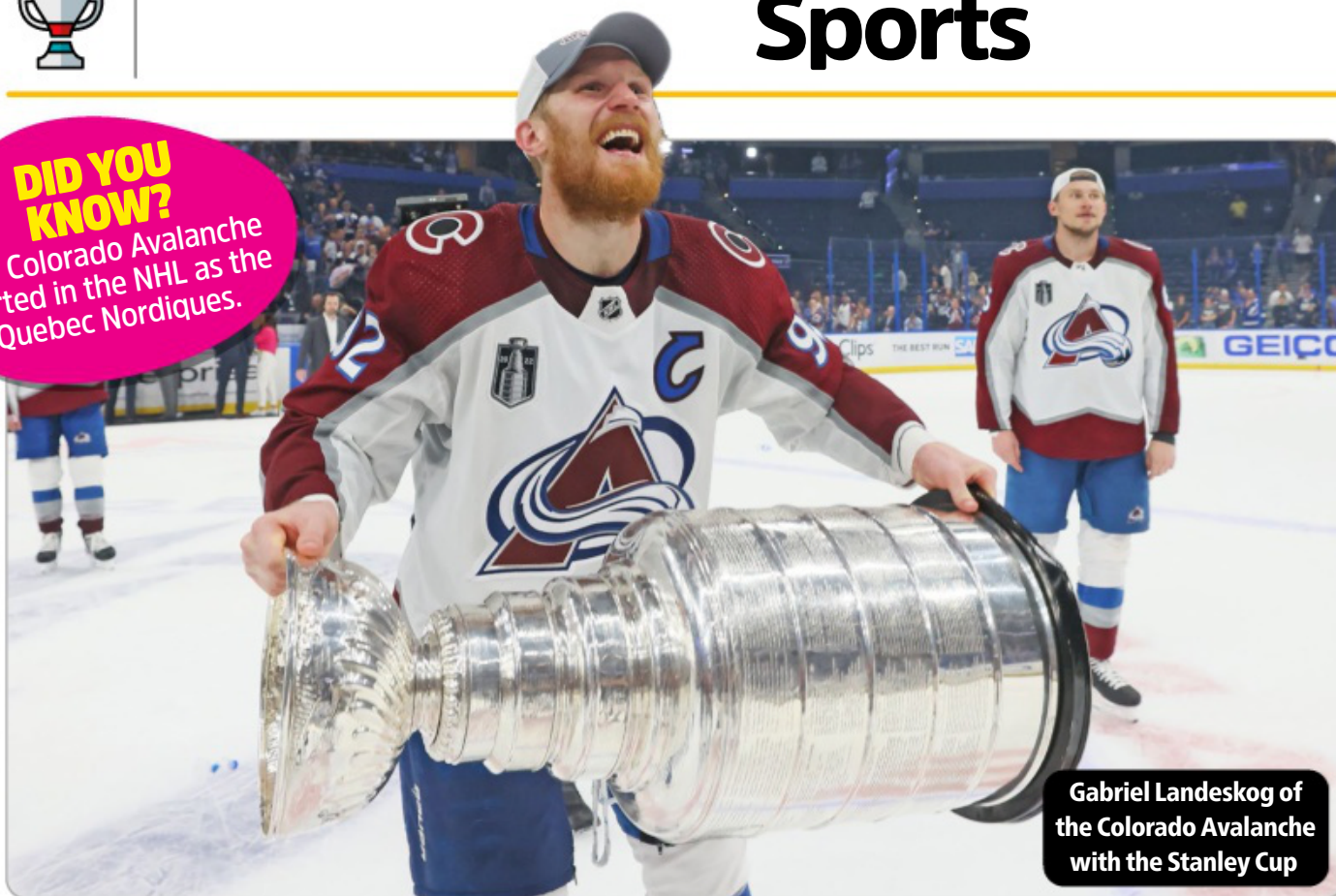




# Sports

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Colorado Avalanche started in the NHL as the Quebec Nordiques.



Gabriel Landeskog of the Colorado Avalanche with the Stanley Cup

## Regular season awards



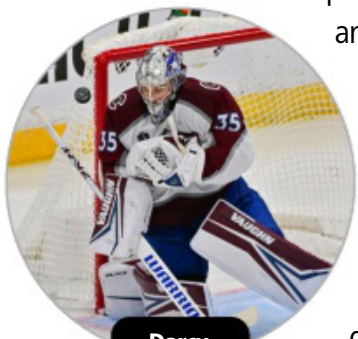
Auston Matthews

The NHL recently handed out its awards for the 2022 regular season. Among the recipients were the Toronto Maple Leafs' Auston Matthews, who was voted the Most Valuable Player (MVP), and Igor Shesterkin of the New York Rangers, who was named the best goalie.

# Stanley Cup trophy goes to Colorado

After six exciting games, the National Hockey League's (NHL) Stanley Cup Finals ended on June 26. With a 2–1 victory, the Colorado Avalanche went up 4–2 in the best-of-seven series and became the NHL champions. They beat the Tampa Bay Lightning, who had won the title the past two years. This is the first time Colorado has won the Stanley Cup trophy in 21 years and the franchise's third title overall.

Colorado had an incredible season. They won 72 games, which ties them with three other teams for the most in NHL history. Their playoff record was 16–4. Tampa Bay was a tough opponent in the finals, with two of the first four games going to overtime.



Darcy Kuemper

Heading into Game 5 on June 24, Colorado was one win from the championship and had the advantage of home ice. Late in the first period, Tampa Bay defenseman Jan Rutta scored and gave his team a 1–0 lead, but Colorado responded early in the second period with a goal by right wing Valeri Nichushkin. Tampa Bay's right wing Nikita Kucherov scored a few minutes later and took back the lead. Colorado defenseman Cale Makar evened the score, but Tampa Bay left wing Ondrej Palat came through with a goal that gave his team a 3–2 win and forced another game.

The action shifted to Tampa Bay's home ice for Game 6. The Lightning struck first as center and

team captain Steven Stamkos scored his 11th goal of the postseason. Early in the second period, Avalanche center Nathan MacKinnon buried a shot into the back of the net to tie the score, 1–1. Later in the second period, MacKinnon assisted left wing Artturi Lehkonen, who scored what became the winning goal. Colorado's defense was excellent in the game, and Avalanche goaltender Darcy Kuemper had a superb outing. He made 22 saves in the series-clinching win.

At the end of the game, Colorado's Makar was named the Most Valuable Player of the playoffs. The 23-year-old scored eight goals and piled up 21 assists in 20 games during the postseason. Days before, he received the James Norris Memorial trophy, which is awarded to the best defensive player in the NHL.

## THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

### SWIMMING

On June 24 at the Swimming World Championships in Budapest, Hungary, Team USA's Katie Ledecky won the 800-meter freestyle and became the first swimmer ever to win five straight world titles in the same event. She now has 19 World Championship golds and a total of 22 medals in all, which is a new record for a female swimmer. Team USA won 45 medals at the event this year.



Katie Ledecky, center

### BASKETBALL

Paolo Banchero, a freshman from Duke University, was the number-one overall pick at the National Basketball Association (NBA) draft on June 23. He was selected by the Orlando Magic.

### TRACK AND FIELD

Sydney McLaughlin broke her own world record as she won the 400-meter hurdles at the USA Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon, on June 25.





## FUN FACT

Former US President George H.W. Bush played in the Men's College World Series in 1947 and 1948.

Ole Miss baseball players

## Ole Miss wins College World Series

On June 26, the baseball team from the University of Mississippi, known as Ole Miss, won the Men's College World Series for the first time in history. The team clinched the championship by sweeping the University of Oklahoma in the World Series finals. The games were played in Omaha, Nebraska, where the College World Series has been held since 1950.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division One postseason tournament began in early June with 64 teams. Ole Miss was one of the last teams included. They had a record of 32–22 and were not expected to go far, but they won five straight games and were one of eight teams to make it to the World Series.

To earn the title, a team must win two out of three games in the final series. Game 1 took place on June 25. Ole Miss slugged their way to

a 10–3 win. In the eighth inning, their batters hit three consecutive home runs.

Game 2 featured superb pitching by Ole Miss freshman Hunter Elliott and Oklahoma's Cade Horton. Neither player allowed a run in the first five innings. In the sixth, Jacob Gonzalez hit a solo home run to give Ole Miss a 1–0 lead. The next inning, Oklahoma responded with two runs of their own to capture a late 2–1 lead. Ole Miss rallied for three runs in the eighth and took a 4–2 lead that they would not give up. Ole Miss is the first team since 2000 to win a Men's College World Series game after trailing in the seventh.

Captain Tim Elko believes people will talk about his team for years: "There is so much to be said for how much we overcame this year, how much we had to fight through, how much we had to pick each other up and never let ourselves get down."

## SPOTLIGHT ON...



## Ayoka Lee

AGE: 21 SPORT: BASKETBALL  
TEAM: KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

**Late start** My older brother played basketball, and I didn't want to do anything that he was doing. But I tried it in seventh grade and loved it, so I kept playing. I like the team aspect.

**Top shooter** Earlier this year, I set an NCAA Women's Basketball Division One record by scoring 61 points in a single game. The fact that no other women's college basketball player has done that is really cool.

**Juggling act** I balance sports and school by asking for help when I need it and communicating when I have things I need to get done. I set boundaries for basketball time, school time, and relaxing. It's important to make time for things I enjoy without any expectations or goals to meet. I like to bake, paint, read, or be with friends.

**Fueling up** One of my favorite snacks is cottage cheese with celery and salt and pepper.

**Smart play** When facing a big game, I trust my preparation and our team's preparation and remember that at the end of the day, it is just a basketball game. It's an honor and a privilege to be out there. I don't take that for granted.

**Winning attitude** Being a basketball player is something I do, but it's not who I am. So regardless of whether I have a really good night or a really bad night, it doesn't define me. I still have a great support system and a family that loves me.

**Her advice** Have fun. If basketball or any other sport is something you love, then it's worth your time and it's worth putting work into it. But at the end of the day, don't forget to have fun with it.



## COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Emily Walters**

Sport: **Fastpitch softball competitive 10U**

"Coach Emily always pushes us to do our very best and has taught us so much about softball. Even if I miss the ball, she helps me get it the next time. I don't know if I would be this good without her. She is an amazing coach and leader. All the girls on our team play hard for her. She will inspire me my entire softball career." Ashleigh, 10, California



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com). Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.





## DID YOU KNOW?

There are about one million species of animals living in the ocean.



*The Sea Beast*

# New ocean adventure

The animated film *The Sea Beast* is a tale about monster hunters and a brave girl who wants to be one.

On July 8, the new animated adventure *The Sea Beast* premieres on Netflix. It was co-written and directed by Chris Williams, who directed the award-winning film *Big Hero 6*.

*The Sea Beast* is about monster hunters aboard the ship *The Inevitable*. They are joined by stowaway Maisie, an 11-year-old aspiring hunter who ends up on an unexpected journey with legend Jacob Holland. Williams said his idea for the story

came from a childhood love of adventure films and an interest in old maps depicting sea monsters.

*The Sea Beast's* creative team did extensive research to make sure details in the film were accurate. They met with experts to learn how ships were built, and they carefully studied the movement of a ship's ropes. "So much of our attention to detail came from our wanting the audience to feel completely immersed in this world," producer Jed Schlanger told *The Week Junior*.



Zaris-Angel Hator

Williams made *The Sea Beast's* world inclusive and diverse. Actress Zaris-Angel Hator, who is 18 and voices Maisie, was excited that her character has dark skin and natural hair. "I feel like a lot of young dark-skinned girls can look up to Maisie, and seeing themselves as that character is something that's really important," she said.

While a major theme in the film is family, a darker one is revenge. Schlanger said the film will make viewers think about whether inflicting punishment for a wrongdoing makes people feel better. "It's a powerful lesson," he said.

## 3 facts about the film

### Visual influence

The film's production designer said that part of the *The Sea Beast's* look was inspired by the clouds and sky in paintings by American artist N.C. Wyeth.



### Water scenes

There are almost 800 ocean shots in the film. When they were making waves, the animators relied on the Beaufort Wind Scale, which real sailors have used for hundreds of years to estimate wind speed and its effect on the water.



### Red sails

*The Inevitable's* red sails aren't just for show. To prevent rot and sun damage, sailmakers used to treat cotton sails with a substance found in tree bark. It would turn the material a brownish red.







**SCREEN TO PAGE**  
Marcel the Shell is the main character in two best-selling books for children.

**Marcel the Shell with Shoes On**

## Viral video becomes movie

Marcel, a tiny, talking shell with a big heart, became famous in 2010 when he starred in a stop-motion animation video that was seen by millions. Now he is starring in the film *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On*, which is playing in select theaters across the country. It will open nationwide on July 15.

Marcel was created by Jenny Slate, who provides his voice, and Dean Fleischer Camp. In the original video, Camp interviewed Marcel about his life. In the film, Camp plays a filmmaker who rents the house where Marcel lives. After he learns that Marcel misses the other shells that used to live there, the pair set out to find them.

*Marcel the Shell with Shoes On* was made almost entirely with stop-motion animation. This technique involves moving figures in tiny ways and taking photos after every move. When they are put together, the figures appear animated. The movie contains 129,600 images.

In the film, Marcel deals with issues such as loneliness and wanting to be part of a community. Slate told *The Week Junior* she is excited for young audiences to see Marcel's story and how it might inspire discussions. "I don't think we make enough room for kids to talk about what it feels like to be lonely or confused, or wanting to take a risk but being afraid of how it might turn out," she said.



## MY FAVORITE BOOKS

Al Roker, news and weather features anchor, *Today*, and co-host, 3rd Hour of *Today*, shares his thoughts on the magic of books and what he enjoyed reading to his children.

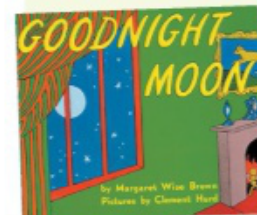


**Al Roker**

I think the magic of reading is that when you pick up a book, you get to meet new people, visit different places, and experience unbelievable things. It takes us outside

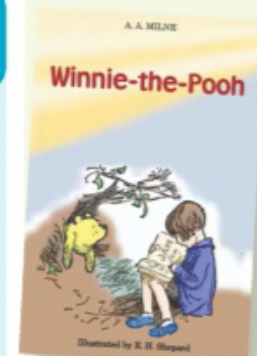
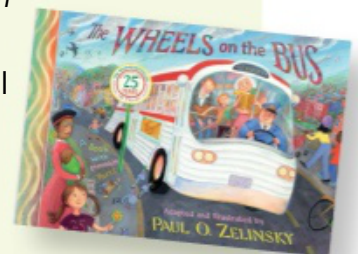
our own world and allows us to enter different environments.

There are many books that I enjoyed reading to my three kids when they

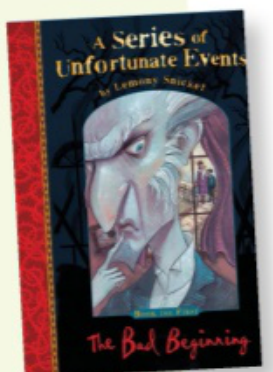


were very young. We read *Goodnight Moon*, and we read *The Wheels on the Bus* so much that the pages became all torn up. I also read *Winnie-the-Pooh* to them and would do the voices of the characters.

As my children got older, they moved beyond picture books. For instance, each one of them read the *A Series of Unfortunate Events* series by Lemony Snicket, the pen name for Daniel Handler. I will always remember when Handler was in our *Today* show studio. My daughter Leila was a huge



fan, and she came to the studio to meet him. He inscribed in her book, "To Leila, a future orphan. Always be curious. Love, Lemony Snicket." On the one hand, I thought that sounded a little grim. But on the other hand, what a great signature.



For more book ideas, get our list of 50 books at [theweekjunior.com/summerofreading](http://theweekjunior.com/summerofreading).



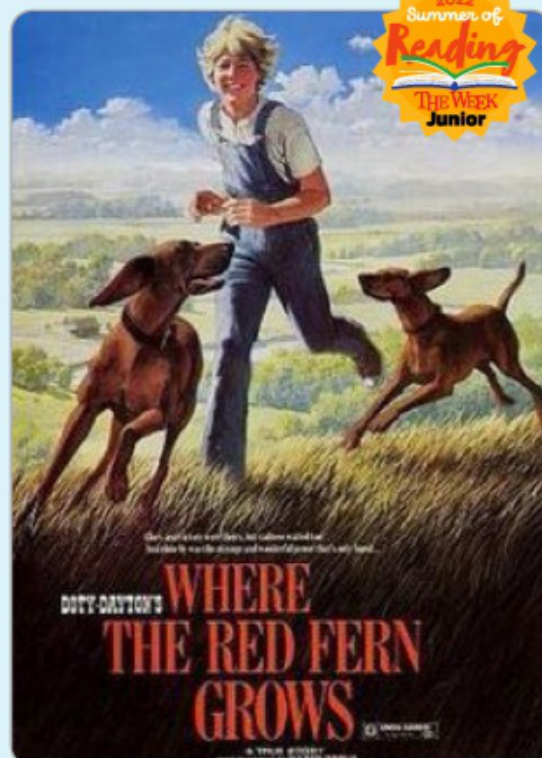
## MOVIE NIGHT

For our Summer of Reading program, we're selecting a film based on a popular book.

### Where the Red Fern Grows (1974)

Amazon Prime

This emotion-packed film is based on the beloved 1961 novel of the same name by Wilson Rawls. Set during the Great Depression (a period from 1929–1939 that left millions of Americans without work or food), the story follows Billy Coleman, a boy growing up in the Ozark Mountains of Oklahoma, where raccoons and mountain lions roam. Billy has always dreamed of having a dog for raccoon hunting, but his family can't afford one. His grandfather inspires him to raise the money himself. He works several jobs and makes enough to buy two puppies, which he names Old Dan and Little Ann. He teaches them how to hunt, and they're really good at it. The trio develop a strong bond, and the dogs become Billy's protectors. What will he learn from them about love and loyalty?







## On screen

### DID YOU KNOW?

Fall Guys was inspired by the Japanese game show Takeshi's Castle.



# Popular game is now free

Fall Guys, the hit battle royale game (a multiplayer game with the goal of being the last player standing), is available to more people than ever. Until recently, the game was only on the PlayStation 4 and PC. Now it can be accessed on the PlayStation 5, Xbox platforms, and Nintendo Switch. On top of that, the new Fall Guys: Free for All update lets people download the game for free and play up to 50 tiers (levels) right away.

Fall Guys was first released in 2020. Its main characters are known as Beans. In the game, players guide them through funny, fast-paced challenges and obstacle courses in an arena called the Blunderdome. Each round can include up to 60 players, so the action often gets a little chaotic, but that only makes it more enjoyable.



There are plenty of features in the update for people who have been playing Fall Guys from the start. Not only do they get 100 levels automatically, but there are also seven new rounds and five new obstacles. One of the new rounds is Bounce Party, where the Beans must jump through hoops in giant bouncy spaces. Track Attack is a race on a course with fast-flying obstacles, and Blast Ball is dodgeball played on giant platforms above a huge slime pit.

The expansion also offers new Bean costumes for legacy gamers, such as a Veggie Dog, and Fall Guys will be releasing new skins based on Godzilla, the Pusheen brand's adorable cartoon cats, and more. The Fall Guys fun will keep coming too. New seasons are expected later this year.

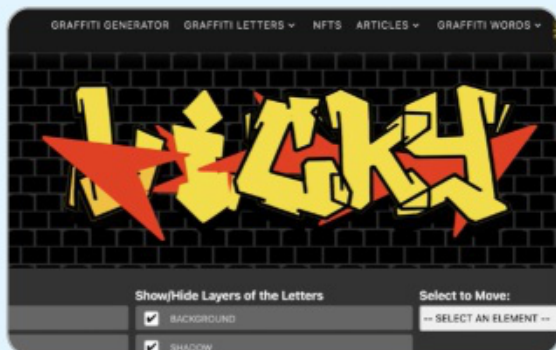


## WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

### GRAFFITI GENERATOR

[tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Graffiti](https://tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Graffiti)

You can't paint graffiti on property that isn't your own, but this is good virtual fun. Enter your name (known as a tag) or a word, and the site will give it the graffiti treatment. You can choose one of seven fonts and decide on all the colors in the design. Right-click the result for a shareable file.



## APP OF THE WEEK



### BRICKIT

App Store, Google Play

This app, which helps you figure out what to build with Lego bricks, has been updated. New features include improved detection technology, a finder for locating bricks within a pile, a platform for submitting and sharing your designs, and the chance to help the app correct its mistakes.

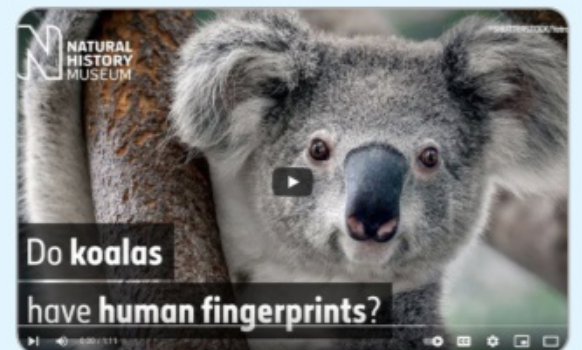


## VIDEO OF THE WEEK

### KOALA FINGERPRINTS

[tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Koala](https://tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Koala)

Did you know humans aren't the only species with fingerprints? This video from the Natural History Museum in London, England, explains how koalas have prints that are so much like humans' that they can sometimes confuse people doing crime scene investigations in Australia.







## BOOK OF THE WEEK

# Cat's Cradle: The Golden Twine

By Jo Rioux

(First Second)

Suri, an orphan, lives with a traveling camp of merchants near mountains known as the Dragon's Belt. About 500 years ago, a spider witch created a gap that allows monsters to cross onto the human side. A dragon carried Suri from the land of monsters when she was a baby. She believes that she's better at taming monsters—such as cat creatures that can make themselves look like humans—than the people who are doing it now. On the way out of camp, Suri helps a mysterious boy carry packages. The boy drops a ball of golden twine, and Suri keeps it. The cat creatures, who know the



## STORY STARTER

If you're interested in writing a story but aren't sure where to begin, use this inspiration from Jo Rioux. She has written the first sentence of a story below. Now write what comes next. It can be anything! Sometimes it's easier to be creative when you have a jumping-off point. Have fun!

**"As I ran across the rooftops in my pajamas, with the tiger right at my heels, I could only think of one thing."**

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twine has magical powers, come after Suri and separate her from the camp. Will Suri be up to the challenge of taming the monsters? The story ends on a cliffhanger

because it's the first book in a new series. You may want to refer to the journal pages at the end that describe the various types of monsters in the book. Ages 8–12



## Ask the Author: Jo Rioux

We spoke to Jo Rioux, who wrote this issue's Book of the Week. She is one of *The Week Junior's* Summer of Reading Author Ambassadors. *Cat's Cradle* is a graphic-novel fantasy and is the first of three books in a new series that Rioux is writing.



### Were you ever scared of monsters?

I was fun-scared of them. Growing up, I'd like to spook myself by reading scary stories that I wrote. I would also check out library books about monsters from other countries and cultures.



### So you loved books as a kid?

I was a voracious reader of comics. But I had trouble reading regular novels. My eyes always skipped around on the page.

### What was your favorite comic series?

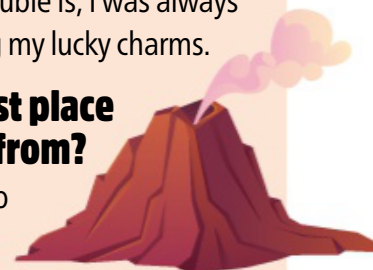
*Calvin and Hobbes*. The series helped me learn English. French is my first language.

### Do you have a lucky charm?

Not anymore, but as a kid, I always had a rock or stone in my pocket. Trouble is, I was always losing things, including my lucky charms.

### What's the coolest place you've sketched from?

On the top of a volcano in Costa Rica.



### Do you prefer writing or drawing?

I love both, but writing is the only time I stay up all night to do something. It's so exhilarating when the words are pouring out of you.

### Biking or swimming?

Biking helps me relax and gives me a sense of freedom.



Our list of 50 Books Kids Love Most and details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes can be found at [theweekjunior.com/summerofreading](https://theweekjunior.com/summerofreading). Happy reading!





# How to...



## Have fun with Ping-Pong

The fast-paced sport of table tennis is enjoyable to play and easy to learn.

More than 16 million people ages 6 and up in the US play the sport of table tennis, popularly known as Ping-Pong. The game is played with paddles and a lightweight ball on a large table with a net that is 6 feet long and 6 inches high above the table. (Many local recreation centers have tables, paddles, and balls, or you can buy a set that includes a net that can turn any rectangular table into a Ping-Pong table.) Here are some tips for getting started.

### Begin with a serve

Matches can be played with single players or in pairs. Each point starts with a player making an important shot called a serve. The serving player tosses the ball in the air, waits for it to drop down, and then hits it with a paddle over the net and across the table. During each turn, a player gets to serve twice.

### Score points

After you serve, your opponent will try to hit the ball back. If they miss, or the ball bounces more than once on their side, you get the point. If they return it, you hit the ball back and forth until someone misses. The first player to reach 11 points wins a game, and games must be won by two points. If a score is tied at 10–10, a player needs 12 points to win. Matches are decided by the first player to win three out of five games.

### Practice your shots

When you look at the paddle, you may notice that the rubber on each side is a little different. One side has smooth rubber, and the other has textured rubber. As your playing develops, you can learn how each type of rubber can help you hit the ball in strategic ways. Trying out different ways to hit the ball can help you win more points. The smooth side of a paddle can help a player put spin on the ball, causing the ball to spin in a certain direction when it lands on the opponent's side, making it difficult to return. The textured side of a paddle can help a player hit the ball back at a faster speed.

### Play in a tournament

Once you have the basics of table tennis under your belt, it can be fun to play in a tournament. This is when a group of players compete in a series of games to determine one winner. You could check with your community's recreation center to see whether they have any tournaments scheduled for the summer. Or you could create a tournament with a group of friends on a summer afternoon. Make your own bracket, or ask an adult to help you find a blank one online to print out and use. Fill the bracket in with the players for the first round. The winners will advance to the next round until you end up with a table tennis champion.

**YOUNG STAR**  
Hend Zaza, age 12 from Syria, was the youngest table tennis competitor at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

### 4 table tennis terms to know

As you get into the game, you may hear players using these common words.

#### Backspin

Backspin is when a player hits the ball with a downward chopping motion, making the bottom of the ball spin away when it lands. This makes the ball difficult for an opponent to return.

#### Dropshot

This is when a player hits the ball in a light way so the ball drops just over the other side of the net. If the opponent is standing farther back from the table, they may have trouble reaching the ball in time to return it.

#### Rally

A rally is when a ball is being hit back and forth between two players for a substantial amount of time before one player wins the point.

Outside of a game, you can rally for fun and count how many times you and another player can keep the Ping-Pong ball going.

#### Twiddle

This term refers to the motion a player makes when turning the paddle in their hand to take advantage of the different sides of the paddle when making a shot.







## CLEAN FLOORS WITH A VACUUM

Using a vacuum cleaner is often the best way to make sure your floor is clear of dust and dirt. Here's how.

- 1. Pick up first.** Before you vacuum, tidy up anything that's on the floor so you have a clear space to clean. Dust off other surfaces like desks or counters. This way, if dust or dirt falls on the floor, you'll be able to vacuum it up.
- 2. Work side to side.** If this is your first time using the vacuum, ask an adult to help you plug it in and show you how to put it on the correct setting. Then bring the vacuum to the corner farthest from the door to the room and start vacuuming there. Vacuum in lines going side to side in the room, working your way back to the door.
- 3. Clean it.** Once you're finished, empty the vacuum's bag or filter into a trash can, cleaning out any dust you see. This ensures that your vacuum will work well every time you use it. Finally, return the vacuum to the place where it's stored.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A single strawberry can have more than 200 seeds on its surface.



**WARNING!**  
Ask an adult's permission before using the toaster.

## Make berry ricotta toast

### Ingredients

- 2 slices hearty whole-wheat bread
- ¼ cup whole-milk ricotta cheese
- ⅛ teaspoon lemon zest
- ¼ cup blueberries or raspberries, or 2 strawberries, sliced
- 2 teaspoons sliced almonds
- 1 to 2 teaspoons honey

### Instructions

1. Lightly toast the slices of bread in a toaster.
2. In a small bowl, mix together the ricotta and lemon zest. Stir until the lemon zest is evenly distributed.
3. Spread half the mixture on each slice of toast. Top each piece with half of the berries and almonds.
4. Drizzle honey over the toast. Serve immediately. Makes 2 servings.

### Helpful tips

- The bright yellow outer layer of a lemon's rind is called the zest when

it's grated, and it is very flavorful. You can use a microplane, citrus zester, or the smallest holes on a cheese grater to carefully grate the zest off the lemon. (Be sure to ask an adult's permission before using any of these sharp tools, and ask them to show you how to use one if you haven't used it before.)

- If you don't have any berries at home when making this recipe, try using a different type of fruit on your toast. For example, this recipe also tastes delicious when you use sliced peaches or pears.

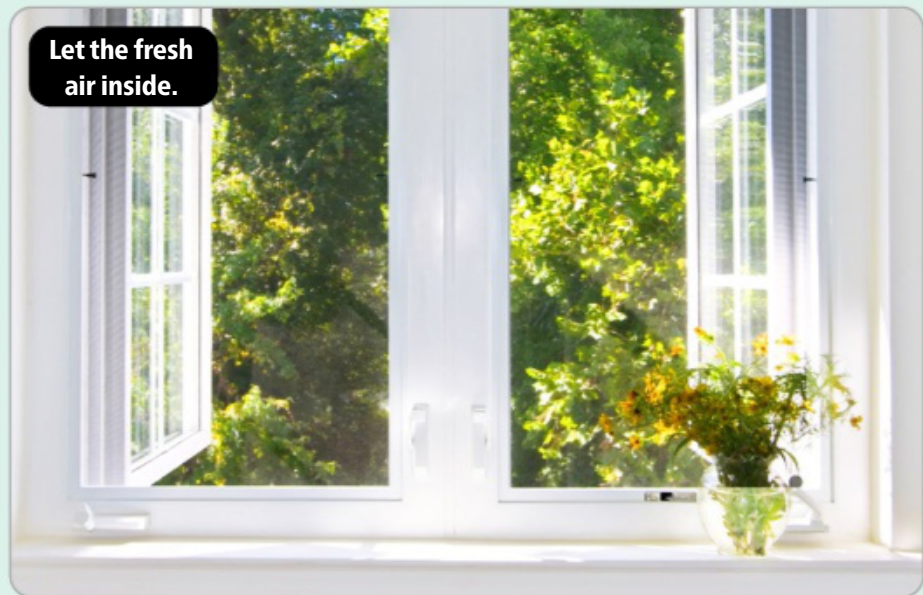


### ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

## REDUCE INDOOR AIR POLLUTION

The exhaust you see coming from trucks or factories may be what comes to mind when you think of air pollution. However, indoor pollution at home also exists and can be less obvious. It can come from activities you do at home, such as painting a room or using the stove or fireplace. These activities are safe to continue doing, but it's smart to clean the air. The easiest way to reduce indoor air pollution at home is to open some windows for at least five minutes every day—or longer when the weather allows. If your kitchen or bathroom has a ventilation fan, run it each day to help circulate fresh air in those rooms.

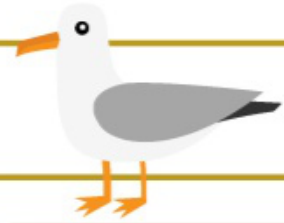
Let the fresh air inside.







# Puzzles



## Word search

Can you find all these words associated with a day at the beach in the grid? They are hidden horizontally, vertically, or diagonally and can be forward or backward. When you're done, read the remaining letters to get a bonus message.

BOARDWALK OCEAN  
BOOGIE BOARD PIER  
COOLER RAFT  
CRAB SANDCASTLE  
DRIFTWOOD SEAWEED  
DUNE SHELL  
FLIP-FLOPS SHORTS  
GULL SNORKEL  
ICES STARFISH  
JET SKI SUNSCREEN  
LIFEGUARD SURF



SWIMSUIT  
TIDE  
TOWEL  
UMBRELLA  
WAVES  
WHARF

S T R O H S  
H E V  
L W  
M W H O S P E L T S A C D N A S  
O S S W I M S U I T T R S R  
T I A N E U B D I S T D A F  
R F F D R A O B E I G O O B  
R L F E A A L D L L O C  
A I U M B R E L L A W E  
T P Y J U D S T U T T A  
S F S E A W E E D G F N  
C L A D R A U G E F I L  
O I R N L Y E R C R  
P O O I K S T E J D  
S D L E D R S O U C  
K N E E R C S N U S  
S N O R K E L S

## FOUR IN A ROW

Place four of the letters below to complete the first pair of words, in the same order in both words. Use the remaining four letters to complete the second pair of words, in the same order in both words.

A D O P R T V Y

AR AK

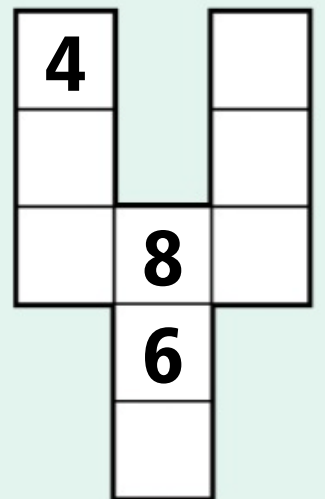
ENTUE

ER

OTMER

## Out of order

The numbers 1 to 9 can fit, one per square, so that no two consecutive numbers are in squares that touch in any way, even at a corner. Use the numbers already given to figure out where the rest of the numbers go.



## FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks in each sentence with two words so the second word is the same as the first word with a single letter added to the end, like FORGE and FORGET. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. I was listening to the ballgame on my phone app, but just as my favorite \_\_\_\_\_ came to the plate, my phone's \_\_\_\_\_ died.
2. As we entered the marshy area, my eye was caught by the \_\_\_\_\_ pink feathers of a \_\_\_\_\_ standing at the water's edge.
3. When the cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ his foot hard on the dusty ground, the cowhands worried it would cause the cattle to \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWERS  
CAN BE  
FOUND ON  
PAGE 29.

## Spot the difference

These two pictures of the Statue of Liberty appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?







This winner was on a roll!

## A very dairy competition

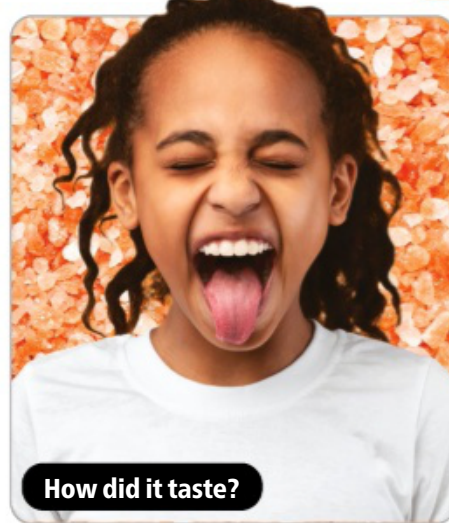
An unusual sport that involves chasing cheese down a hill has returned to the UK after it was canceled during the pandemic. Competitors run after a wheel of Double Gloucester cheese as it rolls down the very steep Cooper's Hill in Gloucestershire at up to 70 miles per hour. The first person to catch it is the winner. This year marked Chris Anderson's 23rd victory, and he now plans to retire from cheese racing. What was his prize? The cheese, of course.

## Supreme poultry patty

After making the world's largest cake pop, Nick DiGiovanni and Lynn Davis set out to create the world's biggest chicken nugget. Ingredients included 41 slices of bread, 40 eggs, and 40 pounds of chicken. The giant nugget had to be cooked in a special contraption and weighed nearly 21 pounds—about 115 times the size of a typical nugget. Confetti flew in their Massachusetts kitchen when the Guinness World Records title was confirmed.



The duo with their epic snack



How did it taste?

## Walls you can lick

A restaurant in Arizona allows its guests to lick the walls while eating their food. One of the walls at The Mission is made of lickable Himalayan rock salt. The head chef apparently brought in the pink salt blocks to make the place more interesting. Staff say they frequently wipe down the salty wall to keep it clean, since it has been very popular with customers.



Did Suki earn a di-paw-loma?

Real or fake?

## Pet cat gets a university degree

A cat named Suki has graduated from the University of Texas at Austin because she sat in on every online class with her owner, Francesca Bourdier. The school was so impressed that it decided to let Suki graduate alongside Bourdier and get her own diploma. "Whenever I would have my Zoom lecture on, it's like Suki almost wanted to listen in on it, and she would always just sit by my laptop," said Bourdier. What do you think? Is this true, or are we pulling your whiskers?\*



More than 300 heard the siren call.

## A sight to be seen near the sea

On June 2, hundreds of "merfolk" (people dressed as mermaids, mermen, and merchildren) gathered in the UK city of Plymouth to achieve a Guinness World Records title. The challenge was part of the Jubilee weekend celebrating Queen Elizabeth's 70th year on the throne. To earn the title of the world's largest gathering of merfolk, there had to be more than 300 people and each person's lower half had to "resemble a fish" for at least six minutes. Organizer Pauline Barker said that achieving the record with 378 people was "mer-mazing."

\*Fake! Suki did attend all of Bourdier's classes, but the cat didn't officially graduate or get honored by the university itself. Instead, Bourdier bought Suki a graduation cap and gown so she could share in her owner's big day.





# Your turn

## Editor's note

One of my favorite things to do every week is to see how many thousands of kids have voted in our Big Debate (p8). I enjoy finding out which debates are the most interesting to you and which way you vote. So far the debate that has received the most votes is "Should restaurants serve only local foods?" (Many more of you said no than yes.) This week, we have another food-related question that we hope everyone will have an opinion on: Is chocolate ice cream better than vanilla? What do you think? We're eager to hear! You can have an adult visit [theweekjunior.com/polls](http://theweekjunior.com/polls) with you so you can cast your vote. We will share the results in Issue 118, which will be published after our editorial team takes a one-week summer break. I will have to try some of *both* flavors during this vacation so I can make up my mind.

Andrea Barbalich  
Editor-in-Chief



## Selling stickers for sea turtles

“Last year I went to St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands and saw baby leatherback sea turtles hatch from their nest in the sand. They were strong and cute and I got to learn a lot about them. When I came home, I wanted to help the turtles because they are endangered. I started a Save the Turtle Club in my third grade class at my school. I turned my turtle artwork into stickers to go on water bottles and sold them. My club also did trash cleanups at recess. The money we earn from selling stickers goes to the Sea Turtle Project. I even got to send some of my stickers to St. Croix for the volunteers. I can't wait to design more stickers and find new ways to help the sea turtles.”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com).



Penelope, 9, Oregon

**JOKE OF THE WEEK**

Why are hardcover books the best?

Because paperbacks are tearable



## CHARITY OF THE WEEK



### Team Red, White & Blue

This organization's mission is to create communities that focus on the mental and physical health of veterans (people who served in the US military). Local chapters organize activities such as running, cycling, and yoga for veterans. It also holds national fitness challenges. The group has more than 200,000 members with 192 locations across the country. Find out more at [teamrwb.org](http://teamrwb.org).



## Enter The Week Junior's nature photo contest!

Do you enjoy taking photos of plants, trees, and wildlife? If so, enter our nature photo contest. Submissions will be judged on quality (clear and well-composed photographs), originality (use of creativity), and how well the entry reflects the nature theme. The entry form for 8- to 10-year-olds is at [tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-8-10](http://tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-8-10). The entry form for 11- to 14-year-olds is at [tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-11-14](http://tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-11-14). Winning entries will be featured in a September 2022 issue of the magazine. See official rules at [theweekjunior.com/photocontestrules](http://theweekjunior.com/photocontestrules).



The deadline to enter is July 18.

THE WEEK  
Junior

**IT'S YOUR TURN**

Email your news, views, and photos to [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com).





## YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com), along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"This is my brothers and me in the morning! We spend it reading!"  
Judah, 10, Texas



"I like *The Week Junior* because I love to quiz my mom on the 'Real or Fake?' and see if she can guess correctly." Tayley, 10, New York

"My whole family loved when I made the kitchen sink bars, especially my twin sister, Elodie. Yum!" Muriel, 11, Virginia



## POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What was your favorite toy when you were younger?

"A stuffed dog. It used to be my mom's, so I would hug it when I was scared."

"Baby Alive dolls, because they have cute clothes."

"A small stuffed unicorn named Magic."

"Barbie. It had a show and came with accessories."

In the Big Debate, we asked: Should summer reading be mandatory?

"Yes, it is a great way to keep your mind sharp and get ready for the next school year!"

"No, summer is to enjoy a break. If you're reading, you can't go swimming or the book would get wet."

"It should be an option. If kids are forced to read, they will enjoy it less."

Now tell us: What is your favorite food at a summer barbecue and why?

## Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Mr. JFT**

School: **Cadence Park School**

"Mr. JFT is a great teacher! I think he deserves this title because he did so many things for us. He is cool but strict when he needs to be. He makes everybody feel good about themselves and always reflects on what he does. Mr. JFT has fun ways of incentivizing us, like games, dojo points, and so much more! He has inspired me to work hard, be kind, and be cool."

Thomas, 10, California

**Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com).**



## Puzzle answers (from page 26)

### Word search

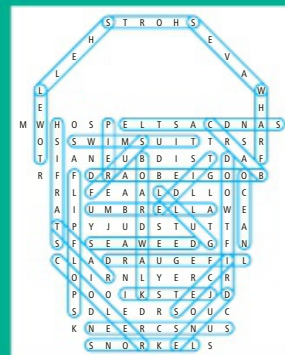
Unused letters:  
Most sand is really just tiny eroded rocks.

### Four in a row

aardvark, adventure  
poetry, optometry

### Fill in the blanks

1. batter, battery  
2. flaming, flamingo  
3. stamped, stampede



## Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 True 2 b) New York 3 The Inevitable 4 a) Armored stegosaurus  
5 False. It was copper-colored and turned bluish-green over time. 6 Eight  
7 True 8 c) 129,600 9 b) 1962 10 True 11 The Blunderdome 12 b) Cheese  
13 Cat creatures 14 False. Vanilla is the most popular. 15 a) Bloodhound

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.





# Quiz of the week

## How much of this week's news can you remember?

**1** True or false? A California court ruled that bees can be considered fish under the state's laws.

True ☐ False ☐

**2** Which city's public library system is giving away 500,000 books for the summer?

a) Chicago b) New York c) Seattle

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**3** What is the name of the ship in the new animated film *The Sea Beast*?

**4** What dinosaur is believed to have had the slowest metabolism?

a) Armored stegosaurus

b) Duck-billed hadrosaur

c) Horned triceratops

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**5** True or false? The Statue of Liberty was bluish-green when it was first built.

True ☐ False ☐

**6** How many US states have banned single-use plastic bags?

**7** True or false? The men's baseball team from Ole Miss recently won its first Men's College World Series title.

True ☐ False ☐

**8** *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On* is a stop-motion movie made with how many images?

a) 109,200 b) 119,400 c) 129,600

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐



**9** In what year did drummer Ringo Starr join the Beatles?

a) 1957 b) 1962 c) 1969

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**10** True or false? Brazilian tapirs are related to horses and rhinoceroses.

True ☐ False ☐

**11** In the video game *Fall Guys*, what is the name of the arena that players guide characters through?

**12** A competition in Gloucestershire, in the UK, involves chasing what type of food down a hill?

a) Bread

b) Cheese

c) Watermelons

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

**13** What kind of monsters come after Suri, the main character in the graphic novel *Cat's Cradle: The Golden Twine*?

**14** True or false? Chocolate is the most popular ice cream flavor in the world.

True ☐ False ☐

**15** Trumpet was the first dog of what breed to win Best in Show at the Westminster Kennel Club dog show?

a) Bloodhound

b) French bulldog

c) Pekingese

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

## THE WEEK Junior

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**Executive editor:** Mindy Walker

**Senior editors:** Gail O'Connor, Jennifer Li Shotz

**Features editor:** Joey Bartolomeo

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**Contributors:** Stephanie Abramson, Lily Alt, Karen Cicero, Erica Clark, Stacy Cousino, Susie Dent, Truman Devitt, Dave Howard, Joy Howard, Jodi Levine, Ruth Margolis, Bari Nan Cohen Rothchild, Melisa Russo, Liz Callahan Schnabolk, Asha Sridhar, Jordan Zakarin

**Special thanks to:** UK editorial team

**Senior VP:** Sophie Wybrew-Bond

**Managing director, news:** Richard Campbell

**VP, consumer marketing:** Nina La France

**Consumer marketing director:** Leslie Guarnieri

**Head of growth marketing:** Colleen Ho

**Group publisher:** Paul Vizza (paul.vizza@futurenet.com)

**Account director:** Mary Gallagher (mary.gallagher@futurenet.com)

**US manufacturing and distribution manager:** Lori Crook

**Reader submissions:** hello@theweekjunior.com

**Customer service:** TWJcustserv@cdsfulfillment.com

**Editorial news:** news@theweekjunior.com

**New subscriptions:** theweekjunior.com

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# Keep kids reading all summer long!

*The Week Junior* invites children to jump into a summer of super adventures through our Summer of Reading challenge.

Reading can take kids anywhere they can think of. They can be the hero of a thousand stories, this summer and beyond.

Bring along a friend, create a summer book club, or give a gift of *The Week Junior* and treat another child to a summer of reading adventures.

**Makes  
a great  
gift!**

**To order a 25 weekly issue subscription  
of *The Week Junior* and save 66%,  
visit [theweekjunior.com/smartfun](https://theweekjunior.com/smartfun)**







## SUN AND SAND

The Spiaggia Grande, where these umbrellas and chairs are set up, is one of the largest beaches on Italy's Amalfi Coast.